



INTRODUCTION

Originally known as Cambridge Farms, Lexington was first settled in 1642. Additional residents were soon attracted by the availability of hay fields and farming acreage and the possibilities of land speculation. Early settlers formed their own parish in 1691 to avoid traveling into Cambridge, and Lexington was incorporated as a town in 1713. The town remained a quiet farming community until 1846 when a railroad line from Boston was extended to Lexington Center.

After a huge Centennial celebration in 1875, attended by an estimated 100,000 people, Lexington's role as the birthplace of American liberty began to attract tourism, and the town became known as a summer resort providing a healthy and invigorating atmosphere. Following World War II, population and residential building increased dramatically, and academicians and high-tech associates became neighbors of descendants of the early settlers. Colonial structures and Victorian mansions were joined by award-winning contemporary architecture. East Lexington in the 19th century had been the scene of debates on such issues as abolition and temperance, and the interest in education which had been the foundation for establishing the first normal school in the United States has continued to flourish. Concerned about maintaining the residential quality of the town while providing services, Lexington citizens established one of the country's first planning boards, and then zoning regulations. Today, Lexington proudly preserves its history and independent spirit.

LEXINGTON GAZETTEER

Settled:

1642

Incorporated:

1713

Zip codes:

02420, 02421

Population:

31,394 (2010 annual census)

Area:

10,650.42 acres

16.64 square miles

Extreme length:

5.80 miles

Extreme width:

4.85 miles

Highest elevation:

Whipple Hill

(374 feet above mean sea level)

Lowest elevation:

Tophet Swamp

(110 feet above mean sea level)

Town-owned conservation land: 1300+ acres

Government:

Representative Town Meeting/

Board of Selectmen/Town Manager

LEXINGTON BATTLE GREEN

★ Lexington Battle Green

Bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Bedford Street and Harrington Road. "The Birthplace of American Liberty." It was here on Lexington's Common on the morning of April 19, 1775, that "the first blood was spilt in the dispute with Great Britain," according to Washington's diary, when about 80 colonists faced over 800 British regulars. In this first skirmish, eight Minute Men lost their lives, 10 were wounded, and one or two British soldiers were also wounded. After the battle Samuel Adams is purported to have exclaimed to John Hancock, "What a glorious morning for America!" The Green is the centerpiece of the Battle Green local historic district, established by Town Meeting vote in March 1956, and was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1966.

* Revolutionary Monument

West side of the Green. This obelisk is America's oldest surviving war monument and is located on the site of the town's first schoolhouse. The remains of the colonists slain in the Battle of Lexington were moved here in 1835 from their common grave in the Old Burying Ground. The lengthy inscription, which

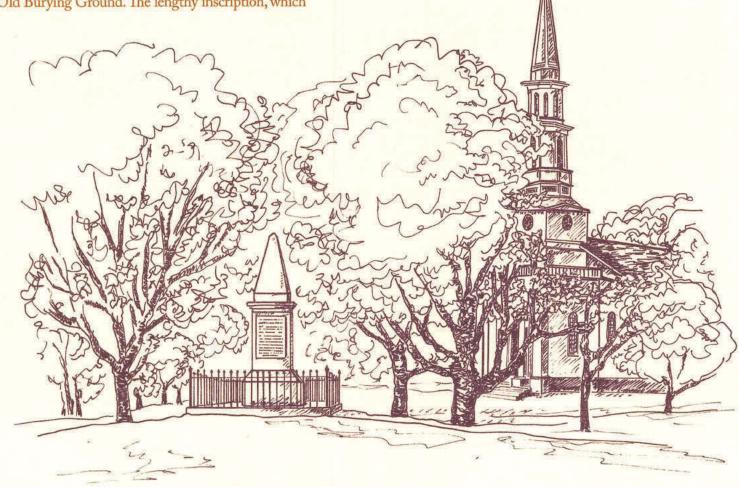
begins, "Sacred to Liberty and the Rights of mankind!!! The Freedom & Independence of America, Sealed and delivered with the blood of her sons," was written by Rev. Jonas Clarke.

★ Minute Man Statue

On the Green. Erected in 1900, this statue by Henry H. Kitson memorializes the Lexington Minute Men and is the focal point of annual April 19th ceremonies honoring the eight colonials who made the ultimate sacrifice.

* The Old Burying Ground

Massachusetts Avenue west of the Green. Walk in from Harrington Road. Contains gravestones dating from 1690, and is the oldest surviving cemetery in Lexington. Captain John Parker of the Minute Men and the British soldier wounded on the retreat from Concord on April 19 (who died April 22, 1775 at Buckman Tavern) are buried here, along with many veterans of the Battle, Revs. John Hancock and Jonas Clarke, and Gov. William Eustis.



LANDSCAPES AND MONUMENTS

L1 Paint Mine

Off Robinson or Turning Mill Roads. Originally a farm in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, owned by the Simonds and Robinson families, the land was sold in the 1860s when it was determined that a naturally occurring ochre in the ground could be mixed with oils to manufacture a superior paint. The Boston and Lexington Paint Company, and later the Lexington Mineral Paint Company, operated here until the late 18th century.

L2 Turning Mill Pond

Off Grove Street. Originally part of the Simonds family estate and site of a mill pond and dam that powered a 19th century grist mill.

L3 Willard's Woods

Off North Street. Includes parts of the late 17th/early 18th century historic Locke family, farmers and millers. Later improved by its late 19th century owner, John H. Willard, with dairy and poultry production.

L4 Minute Man National Historical Park

Massachusetts Avenue west to Marrett Road and Route 2A.

Preserves the first four miles of the "Battle Road" in Concord,
Lincoln and Lexington, where the colonists fired upon the
British troops as they retreated towards Boston. Battle Road
Visitor Center, at the Lexington end, houses exhibits, dioramas
of the Battle Road, a multi-media presentation about events
leading up to the War, and other interpretive displays.

Much of the Battle Road has been restored to its original
condition. Monuments mark the Hayward Well (Massachusetts
Avenue and Wood Street), the Bloody Bluff, used as a rallying
point by the British, Fiske Hill, and the spot where Paul
Revere was captured.

L5 Fiske Hill

Off Massachusetts Avenue at Marrett Road. Situated on the old road over which the British passed in their expedition to Concord, this is the scene of an encounter between an Acton Minute Man and British soldier who, as they came upon one another at the Hayward Well, drew their guns, fired, and killed one another. Near the summit the British Colonel Smith attempted to rally his retreating troops and make a stand against the Provincials, but his troops fled and he was wounded.

L6 Poor House and Farm

Off Cedar Street. The second site of Lexington's Poor House, operating from 1825 to 1925, providing shelter and food for the town's paupers as well as a "lockup" for itinerant tramps.

10 Emery Park

Massachusetts Avenue, facing the Depot.
Following efforts of the railroad to build on this parcel, the town bought the land and eventually changed the name to honor Frederick L. Emery, an early member of the Lexington Field & Garden Club who was devoted to beautifying Lexington and left the town money for parks and plantings.

L7 First House Tablet

Corner of Grant Street and Massachusetts
Avenue, in front of the Edison Building.

Marks the site of the Benjamin Muzzey
house, built in or before 1642, the first
known house in Cambridge Farms, as
Lexington was then known. At the time,
Muzzey was improving the land for its owner
Herbert Pelham, a relative of Lord De la
Warr. Muzzey eventually bought the house
and much of the land from Pelham.

L8 Stone Cannon

1475 Massachusetts Avenue, in front of former high school.

Near the site of a field piece placed by British Gen. Earl Percy when he came to the aid of his fleeing army on April 19, 1775.

Another cannon was placed on the high ground above Munroe Tavern to command the village and its approaches. Several nearby buildings on Massachusetts Avenue were burned during the British retreat.

L9 Munroe Cemetery

Massachusetts Avenue behind Muzzey Condominiums and Munroe Center for the Arts. This 2.5 acre cemetery was established in 1831 by vote of Town Meeting, though some headstones bear dates from the 1820s and may have been moved here from other sites. Named after one of East Lexington's most important families, the cemetery contains the graves of many prominent residents from the late 19th century and many of the town's Civil War casualties.

L10 Francis Brown Homestead

Off Massachusetts Avenue and Woburn Street, behind Munroe Cemetery. Named after Francis Brown, who as a Minute Man stood with Captain Parker on Lexington Green on April 19, 1775. This meadow was used as a safe place for neighbors seeking cover from the advancing British regulars.



L11 West Farm

Off Oak Street. One of the early farms that gave Lexington its original name, "Cambridge Farms." The farm adjoins Wilson Farm, still in operation.

L12 Robbins Cemetery

Massachusetts Avenue near Oak Street. Originally part of the Samuel Winship farm, this land was deeded by his son in 1784 as a cemetery for the Robbins, Winship, Buckman, Bowman and other Lexington families. Today, the cemetery is home to roughly three dozen small headstones and is the smallest of the four cemeteries maintained by the Town of Lexington.

GARDENS

2 Hancock-Clarke Herb Garden

West side of the Hancock-Clarke House, 36 Hancock Street.

5 Helen Noyes Webster Memorial Herb Garden

Directly behind Buckman Tavern, 1 Bedford Street, across from the Green. Webster, a Lexingtonian, was a founder and president of the Herb Society of America.

17 Garden of Colonial Era Flowers

South side of Munroe Tavern, 1332 Massachusetts Avenue.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

1 Simonds Tavern

331 Bedford Street. Private. North end circa 1795, south end circa 1810. Served as a tavern from 1802 to 1828, and operated by Joshua Simonds, son of Minute Man Joshua Simonds. Simonds Tavern was one of 12 taverns which served the drovers bringing cattle and goods down from Vermont and New Hampshire. The Tavern was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.



2 Hancock-Clarke House

36 Hancock Street. Built in 1737. Home of the Reverends John Hancock and Jonas Clarke, it was the destination of Paul Revere and William Dawes on the night of April 18, 1775, when they rode from Boston to warn the sleeping Samuel Adams and John Hancock of the coming of British troops. The house contains many original furnishings and portraits. Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1971.

3 First Normal School

1 Hancock Street, at corner of Bedford Street and Hancock Street. Now the Masonic Temple. In 1822 this structure was built for the Lexington Academy. It became the first Normal School, or Teachers' College, in the U.S., when, in July, 1839, Horace Mann, Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, summoned the Rev. Cyrus Peirce to be headmaster who then enrolled three pupils.

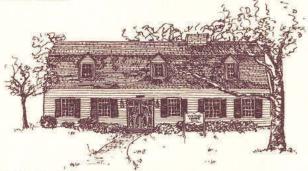
4 Jonathan Harrington House

1 Harrington Road, at corner of Harrington Road and Bedford Street. Private. Circa 1739. The home of Jonathan Harrington, who was wounded in the first Battle on the Green. After being hit by a British bullet, he dragged himself toward his house and died near his doorstep as his wife watched. The ell of the house, added in 1830 (removed circa 1910) was used by Burr and Chittenden to manufacture wall clocks.



5 Buckman Tavern

1 Bedford Street, right of the Green. Built in 1710. The oldest tavern in Lexington, where Lexington militia gathered in the early hours of April 19, 1775 while awaiting the British regulars. The building was a frequent venue for official town business as well as informal gatherings during the hundred years it operated as a tavern. Lexington's first post office opened in the tavern's ell in 1812. The interior today is much the same as it was when the tavern was the headquarters of the militia. Buckman Tavern was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1966. To the left of the tavern is the Memorial to the Lexington Minute Men of 1775, erected in 1949, and containing the names of the Minute Men who died on the Green in the first battle of the Revolutionary War. The inscription reads "These men gave everything dear in life Yea and Life itself in support of the common cause."



6 Visitor Center

1875 Massachusetts Avenue, opposite the Green. Built in 1966. The Center offers information and hospitality to over 100,000 visitors annually. On display is a diorama of the Battle of Lexington, created by William F. Buckley, former assistant director of Cary Memorial Library who was held hostage in Iran for over a year before his execution.

6 U.S.S. Lexington Memorial

Left of the Visitor Center. Five granite markers are dedicated to the memory of those who served aboard the U.S. Navy ships that have been named Lexington.

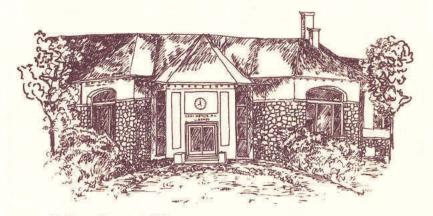
7 Marrett & Nathan Munroe House

1906 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Circa 1729. Nathan Munroe, a member of Capt. John Parker's company, left this house to respond to the call to arms on the Green in the first battle of the Revolutionary War in the early morning hours of April 19, 1775.



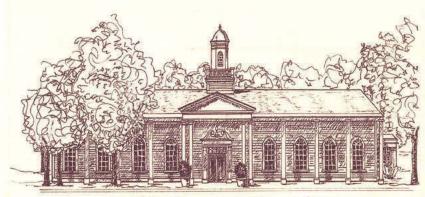
8 The Old Belfry

Massachusetts Avenue and Clarke Street. Built on its present site in 1761, it was moved to the Green in 1767. There it remained for 30 years and its bell summoned people to worship, warned them of danger, tolled on their deaths, and sounded the alarm on April 19, 1775. The Belfry was not built on the church or meeting house, but was erected as a separate structure. The Belfry was moved from the Green in 1797 by Capt. Parker's son to his homestead, where he used it as a workshop. It was given to the Lexington Historical Society and moved back to Belfry Hill in 1891. In 1910, it was blown down by a gale and the Historical Society built an exact scale reproduction on the site.



9 Cary Memorial Library

1874 Massachusetts Avenue at Clarke Street. Established in 1868, Cary Memorial Library carried on the legacy of its 1827 forerunner, the Juvenile Library, the first library to be publicly supported in Massachusetts. The building was dedicated on July 16, 1906, and substantially expanded in 2004. Its collection includes over 250,000 volumes, a rich collection of materials on the Lexington area and the Revolutionary period, unique works by and about Thoreau, and many outstanding paintings - including those of several Cary family members, prominent local figures (Samuel Bowman, Paul Revere, Earl Percy, William Dawes) and the mural "Four Seasons" by Aiden Lasell Ripley.



10 Lexington Depot

13 Depot Square. The 1846 train station is one of the last surviving train shed depots in New England, and has undergone a number of renovations. The Depot building is currently the headquarters of the Lexington Historical Society.

11 Post Office Mural

1661 Massachusetts Avenue. A 1939 representation of the alert to the citizens that the British were on their way, by Aidan Lassell Ripley, a resident of Follen Hill who was active in town affairs.



12 Cary Memorial Building

1605 Massachusetts Avenue. The gift of Susanna Cary and Elizabeth Cary Farnham to the town in memory of their father Isaac Harris Cary (1803-1881). An interior plaque reads, "Commemorates his interest in the early history of Lexington, his assistance to young men in improving their conditions in life and his desire to promote the intellectual and moral growth of this community which both father and daughters loved." There are numerous Colonial Revival motifs both inside and outside the building, paintings of Margaret Lady Lexington and the Henry Sandham painting "Dawn of Liberty," statues of Samuel Adams and John Hancock, and plaques listing Revolutionary War dead and those who gave their lives in the Civil War and World War I.

13 Mead House

1505 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Woburn Street. Private.
Became known as Russell House in 1882 when James Russell opened it as a hotel, adding, in 1883, an ell of 40 rooms. In 1775, this site was the home of Matthew Mead. Tradition holds that on the night of April 18, 1775, three of General Gage's officers entered the house and without permission helped themselves to baked beans and brown bread. The older portion of the present main building was built in 1779 and includes the frame of the earlier 1775 house. As the Russell House, it was one of several country hotels that flourished during the 19th and 20th centuries to serve the city residents who regularly summered in Lexington.

14 John Mulliken House

1377 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Built 1795. John Mulliken bought the Raymond Tavern in 1776 and soon demolished it. Raymond had been killed by the British while fleeing from Munroe Tavern in April of 1775. John Mulliken built this house on the Tavern foundation, using some of the original timbers.

15 Nathaniel Mulliken House

1361 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Completed by 1780. The Mullikens were a family of clock and cabinet makers who moved to Lexington from Newburyport circa 1751. The first home and shop of this well-known family were burned by the British on their retreat in April, 1775. The family then moved to Raymond Tavern at 1377 Massachusetts Avenue. They then built this house across the street, and it was moved to its present site circa 1890.

16 Mason House

1303 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Circa early 1700s. The tanner John Mason was one of the 11 original purchasers of the Green in 1711 from Benjamin Muzzey. His grandsons, Joseph and Daniel, fought in Captain Parker's company of Minute Men in 1775. The noted astronomer James Winthrop raised mulberry trees for his silk worms here until his death in 1821. This house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990 as part of a survey of First Period houses in Massachusetts.



17 Munroe Tavern

1332 Massachusetts Avenue. Built in 1735. The Munroe family homestead for two hundred years, and headquarters and field hospital for the British on the afternoon of April 19, 1775 when it was briefly occupied by Gen. Percy and his reinforcements. The tavern contains many artifacts from President Washington's visit to Lexington in 1789 when he dined there during his New England tour. The tavern now serves as the Museum of the British Redcoats. Munroe Tavern was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

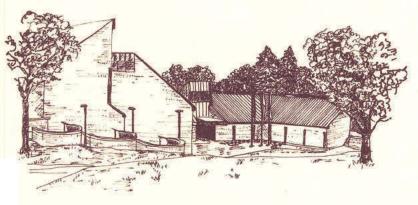
18 Sanderson House

1314 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Circa early 1700s.

A wounded British soldier was left here on the retreat on April 19, 1775. Coffins were manufactured in the building's cellar, which originally opened directly onto Massachusetts Avenue. In later years, the Downing family owned the house and manufactured wagon wheels there. One of their sons moved to Concord, N.H. and established the company that designed and manufactured the stagecoach known as the Concord Coach. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

19 Robbins House

1295 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Built in East Lexington in 1716 and moved to its present site in 1946, this house is rumored to have been a station on the Underground Railroad during anti-slavery days and the Civil War. Stephen Robbins, the original owner, was largely responsible for developing Lexington's East Village into the economic and industrial center of town for many years.



20 Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library

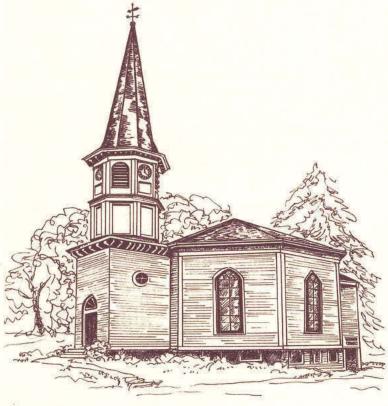
Route 2A at Marrett Road. Dedicated in 1975 by the Scottish Rite Masons, the Museum features innovative exhibits of America's Masonic history and culture from its founding to the present. The Museum was constructed on land originally belonging to Col. William A. Tower, a flour and grain merchant turned banker and railroad executive, who later represented Lexington in the Massachusetts legislature. His son Richard Tower built the 1906 brick Colonial Revival mansion on the knoll overlooking the Museum.

21 Jonathan Harrington House

955 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Circa 1788. Jonathan Harrington was a fifer in Capt. John Parker's company of Minute Men and was the last survivor of the Battle of Lexington. He was a chair maker and furniture repairer, and died in 1854, at age 96.

22 Bowman Tavern

837 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Circa 1760. William Diamond, drummer for the Minute Men, lived here when he was apprenticed as a wheelwright to Thomas Fessenden, the original owner. From 1820 to 1840 it was a tavern run by Francis Bowman, Jr. catering to teamsters and farmers driving sheep, turkeys and cattle to the slaughterhouses in Brighton.



23 Follen Church

755 Massachusetts Avenue. This octagonal church was built in 1839 and entered onto the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. It was designed by its then minister Charles Follen, a German immigrant who is credited with introducing the Christmas tree tradition to New England. Ralph Waldo Emerson and John S. Dwight were also among its ministers. It is a popular performance space due to its excellent acoustics.



24 The Stone Building

735 Massachusetts Avenue. Eli Robbins built this Greek Revival building as a Lyceum (lecture hall) in 1833; as East Lexington was a regular stop on the lecture circuit of the 19th century, such issues as abolition, transcendentalism and temperance were debated here by leading thinkers of the day such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Theodore Parker, Charles Sumner, Wendell Phillips, Josiah Quincy, Jr., John C. Park and possibly Henry David Thoreau. The building served as the East Lexington Branch Library from 1891 to 2007, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

25 The Brick Store

703 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Built in 1828 by Eli Robbins, this was one of the first brick structures in Lexington. As general store, post office, lecture hall and branch library, it provided East Lexington with an important gathering place.

26 Francis Brown House

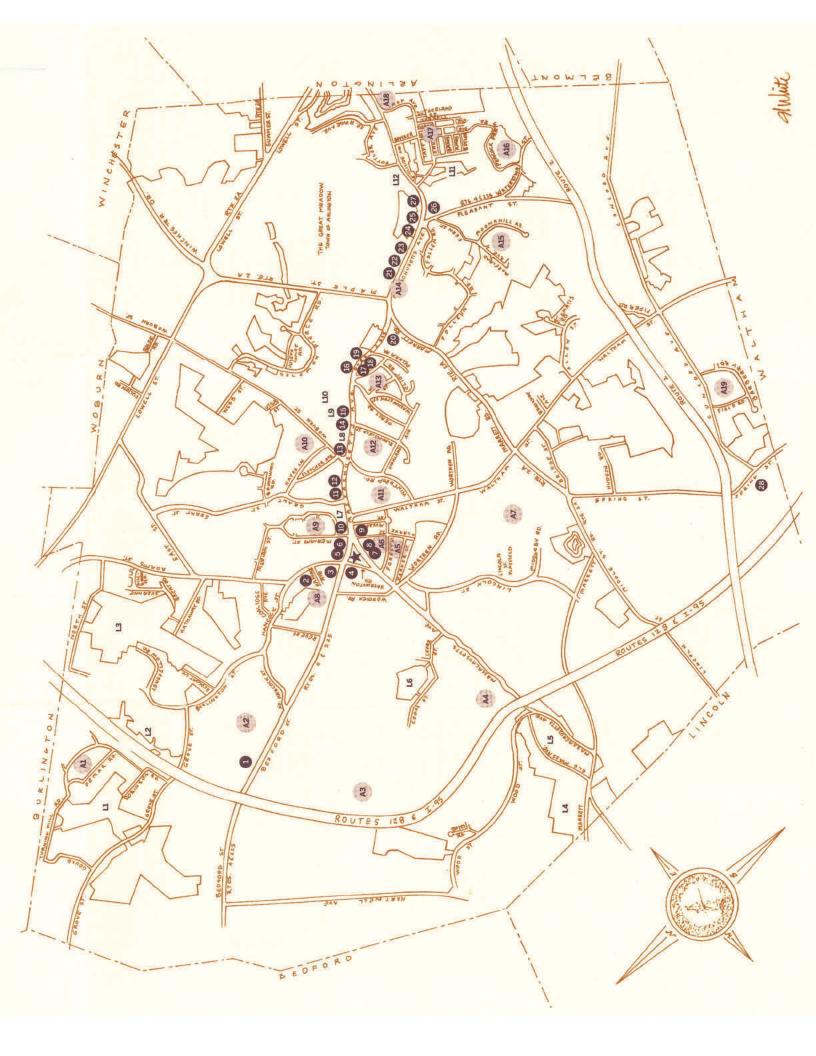
618-20 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. Circa pre-1775. Known as Brown's Tavern, a Minute Man was wounded here on April 19 during the British retreat.

27 Morrell-Dana House

627 Massachusetts Avenue. Private. This house was built by Obadiah Parker in the Federal style circa 1800 and was remodeled into the Greek Revival style circa 1840. Elizabeth Morrell, daughter of a French émigré, and Otis Dana, brother of Richard Henry Dana, were married by Ralph Waldo Emerson in the Follen Church and lived here and entertained many well known persons of the day. Local lore suggests that the Marquis de Lafayette dined here during his visit to Lexington in 1824.

28 Parker Homestead

187 Spring Street. Private. A stone monument marks the site of the birthplace in 1729 of John Parker, Captain of the Lexington Minute Men, and grandson of the original settler. From here the alarm bell summoned him to command his company in 1775. He died of poor health on Sept. 17, 1775, after leading his band of Minute Men to Cambridge on May 6, and a larger detachment of men on June 17 and 18. Here, too, in 1810, was born his grandson Theodore Parker, a renowned preacher and scholar, progressive thinker, abolitionist and prolific writer.



ARCHITECTURAL AREAS

A1 Middle Ridge/Turning Mill

Demar Road off Turning Mill Road. A development of "Techbuilt" houses designed by Carl Koch and built in the mid-1950s, significant as one of the largest groups of this award-winning semi-prefabricated house style in the Boston area. Important to this and several contemporary developments was the sense of community evidenced by such shared interests as community swimming pools.

A2 Lexington Manor

East of Bedford Street and south of Route 128. This neighborhood offers a panorama of the architectural styles that were popular in the early 20th century. Most of the dwellings are 1½ to 2 stories in height and of wood frame construction. A few display brick veneers or stuccoed exteriors. Most of the houses are set relatively close to each other and the street giving the neighborhood a fairly uniform, compact streetscape which is seen in few Lexington neighborhoods.

A3 Lexington Heights/Meagherville

Off Reed Street. Developed by Chicago resident Mark C. Meagher in 1891, on what had been the 260-acre Elm Hill Farm, owned by the Reed family since the early 18th century. The land was laid out by Meager into 2,814 tiny lots – most measuring 25'x 100' – and intended for working-class buyers. 700 lots were purchased by 1902, most on an installment plan.

A4 Wellington Estates

Revolutionary Road/Constitution Road off Massachusetts Avenue. Notable for containing a cluster of Royal Barry Wills-designed, Cape Cod-style and colonial dwellings, dating from the 1940s and 1950s.

A5 Parker Street

Spanning the second half of the 19th century, these houses nevertheless are nearly all of similar size, materials, and setback, and many retain their original period trim.

A6 Forest Street

The easternmost end is part of the first major suburban land development in town. The Hancock School, at the corner of Forest and Clarke Streets, was designed by Hartwell and Richardson in 1891, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, and has been converted to condominiums. 42 Forest Street, mid-18th century, is the Amos Muzzey house, moved from Massachusetts Avenue.

A7 Fair Oaks

Outlook Drive, Wachusett Drive and Fair Oaks Drive. Originally the site of a proposed state hospital for the insane, the Fair

Oaks subdivision was laid out in 1909 by Arthur E. Horton, a landscape architect who had worked for the Metropolitan Park Commission, for much of this time under the direction of renowned landscape architect Charles Eliot. The roads were built according to this plan, curving to follow the topography. The original plan included 52 large lots.

A8 Hancock-Clarke Area

Massachusetts Avenue near the Hancock-Clarke house. Established as a local historic district in 1956, the area includes two properties individually listed on the National Register – the Hancock-Clarke House (also a National Historic Landmark), listed in 1971, and the General Samuel Chandler House at 8 Goodwin Road, Lexington's only example of high style Italianate architecture, listed in 1977.



A9 Meriam Hill

Meriam Street, Oakland, Stetson, Chandler, Upland and Glen Roads. Taking its name from the Meriam family who lived in Buckman Tavern and owned much of the hill in the early 19th century, this is the largest assemblage of late 19th century/early 20th century houses in town. There are few recent houses and the neighborhood has great architectural integrity. These are substantial houses settled by people who worked in Boston and knew each other from clubs or bank affiliations; many had first been introduced to Lexington as summer residents.

A10 Woburn Street

An architecturally cohesive neighborhood of 19th century working-class housing, significant as one of the largest concentrations of workers' houses to survive in the suburbs of Boston. Often called "Irish Village," the area was where the original Irish immigrant population settled in Lexington. The neighborhood also includes Vine, Cottage and Utica Streets.

A11 Winthrop Road

Substantial late 19th and early 20th century houses of the early suburban period. Development here was similar to commuter neighborhood havens on Munroe Hill and Meriam Hill.

A12 Bloomfield Street

Patterned shingles decorate many of the mid- to late-19th century houses in a neighborhood that exemplifies early land use controls, requiring one house per lot and a 35 foot setback.

A13 Munroe Hill

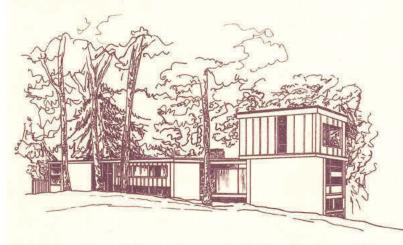
Massachusetts Avenue, Percy Road, Warren Street, Washington Street, Eliot Road, Bennington Road, Pelham Road. The Lexington Land Company developed this area, specifying one house per lot, the setback, and a required construction cost of over \$3500. No houses were built speculatively and many were architect-designed, with many shingle style houses. The area was established as a local historic district in 1956, and includes the Warren E. Sherburne House, 11 Percy Road, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

A14 East Lexington

Massachusetts Avenue two miles east of Lexington Center.

Lexington's East Village, designated as a local historic district in 1956, developed as a separate entity in the late 18th century.

While the older Center Village remained the town's civic center, the East Village became a hub of commercial and industrial activity. The area is notable for its Greek Revival architecture, much of which was taken from the pattern books of architect Asher Benjamin.



A15 Six Moon Hill

Moon Hill Road, off Fern Street (off Pleasant Street). Named for six 1920s Moon automobiles kept in a barn on the hill by a former owner, and built in the late 1940s by The Architects Collaborative (TAC), Walter Gropius' firm, this is a coherent group of contemporary houses. Conceived as an experiment in

community living and to provide housing for TAC architects and their families, the neighborhood is nationally recognized as an important example of mid-century Modernism.



A16 Peacock Farm

Off Routes 4 & 225 at Watertown Street. Built in the 1950s, these contemporary style houses are primarily of the award-winning split-level design, featuring a three bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house with fireplace in a natural setting. This area also includes a community pool and common land. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2012, the area is the design source for four other neighborhoods in Lexington: The Grove (off Grove Street), The Glen at Countryside (off Woburn Street past Lowell Street), Rumford Road and Upper Turning Mill Road.

A17 Liberty Heights

Taft Avenue, Oak Street, Tucker Avenue, Banks Avenue, Ames Avenue, Butler Avenue, bounded by Ellis Street and Carville Avenue, and Baker, Chase and Tarbell Avenues. Built between 1910 and 1950, this is one of the few Lexington areas to be laid out on a grid system and was developed in connection with the electric street railway service begun in 1899.

A18 Taft Avenue/Brick Village

This area was part of a subdivision known as "Brick Village," laid out in 1933 on land owned by developer Harry Johnson. The nine contiguous dwellings display some brick veneering on the façade. In particular, the cluster of six Tudor Revival houses is notable as the only such grouping in town.

A19 Five Fields

Concord Avenue, Barberry, Field Roads. A TAC community (The Architects Collaborative, Walter Gropius' firm) built following the success of the Six Moon Hill development. Built on part of the original Cutler Farm, the development was sited to take advantage of the view and the sun, and was surrounded by five of the farm's original fields, divided by stone walls.